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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF PETITIONS DEPUTY A/C PATENTS

Examiner: Steven Bos

Group Art Unit 1754

In re application of

Cortland O. Dugger

Serial No. 08/990,757

Filed: December 15, 1997

For:

PRODUCTION OF CATIONICALLY-HOMOGENEOUS

NANOSTRUCTURED REFRACTORY OXIDES AT REDUCED TEMPERATURES

PETITION TO THE COMMISSIONER UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.181

Honorable Commissioner of Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

On February 16, 2000, I filed a Divisional Application of the above 08/990,757 application. I request that my Divisional Application be given an early examination date, for two reasons: (1) I am 73 years old and (2) the subject matter of the above application has been pending since February 28, 1992.

Respectfully submitted,

Cortland O. Dugger 12600 Westover Ct.

Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

(301) 627-5268

Filed: March 1, 2000

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHOWER COMMISSIONER